

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 151970

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DRAFTED BY IO/SCT-MR. CAVANAUGH

APPROVED BY IO/SCT-MR. CANANAUGH

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R 271907Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT THE HAGUE 3221 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BERN

PRETORIA VIENNA DATED 25 JUN 75

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG NL SF

SUBJECT: PROPOSED US-DUTCH SWISS SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS TO SOUTH

AFRICA

1. DURING A JUNE 24 CONVERSATION WITH THE DCM FONOFF STATE
SECRETARY KOOIJMANS MENTIONED THAT AN UNSPECIFIED DUTCH FIRM
WAS INVOLVED WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC AND AN UNSPECIFIED SWISS
FIRM IN A PROSPECTIVE SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS TO SOUTH
AFRICA. AS FAR AS THE NETHERLANDS WAS CONCERNED, THE PROPOSED
DEAL WOULD BE "TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE" AND GENERATE
LOTS OF EMPLOYMENT. KOOIJMANS NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE
WERE MAJOR POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS TO
PARTICIPATING IN THE SALE SINCE NUCLEAR POWER IS A SUPER-
SENSITIVE SUBJECT HERE AND THE PRESENT SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME
IS ANATHEMA TO VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE POLITICAL SPECTRUM.

2. KOOIJMANS INDICATED THAT THE PROPOSED SALE WAS NOW BEFORE
HIS MINISTRY FOR AN ADVISORY OPINION, IT HAVING ALREADY
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CLEARED THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, WHICH DULY NOTED

THE SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES. KOOIJMANS SAID FRANKLY THAT IT WOULD BE OF GREAT HELP IN "SELLING" THE DEAL TO THE DUTCH PARLIAMENT AND PUBLIC OPINION IF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA WOULD EITHER GIVE A COMMITMENT TO RATIFY THE NPT EXPEDITIOUSLY OR FOLLOW THE US EXAMPLE AND SIGNIFY ITS ACCEPTANCE OF MORE STRINGENT SAFEGUARDS THAN THOSE REQUIRED BY THE IAEA. HE ASKED IF US AUTHORITIES HAD ANY INFORMATION RE SOUTH AFRICA'S INTENTIONS ON THIS POINT. DCM SAID HE WOULD INQUIRE AND LET KOOIJMANS KNOW.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OR PRETORIA CAN PROVIDE ON SOUTH AFRICA'S INTENTIONS RE NPT AND SAFEGUARDS AND HOW USG VIEWS THE PROPOSED SALE. EMBASSY BERN MAY WISH TO COMMENT ON EXTENT OF SWISS INVOLVEMENT, WHICH KOOIJMANS SAID CREATED NO PROBLEMS FOR THE SWISS GOVERNMENT.

GOULD
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INGERSOLL

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